

San Miguel County Open Space Commission (OSC) Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Date: Monday, January 23, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM MST (via Zoom)

Attendance:

OSC Members Present: Jason Merritt, Susie St. Onge, Roger Wickham, Laura Kudo, Sefra Maples, Yvette Henson

OSC Members Absent: Angela Dye

SMC Staff Present: Janet Kask

Call to Order: 4:09 pm by Chairperson Susie St. Onge

Approval of 11/30/2022 Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by Laura Kudo, second by Jason Merritt, unanimous approval.

Approval of 12/19/2022 Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by Roger Wickham, second by Laura Kudo, unanimous approval.

Agenda Items:

East End Master Plan: The Planning Department is in the process of updating the County's master plan for the East End of the County (approximately Grayhead to Trout Lake) and is currently gathering data and input from the public at meetings and pop up events. The current Master Plan is 30 years old. The public comments collected to date include thoughts on tourism and recreation, wildlife, wildlife habitat, land use, housing, water supply, water conservation, water quality, wildfire, forest health, open space, conservation, natural resources, scenic corridors, transportation, environmental education and more. Many of the comments and plan subcategories are related to work that the Open Space Commission does for the County. Plan documents do not currently reference the San Miguel County Open Space Commission, whose charge it is to oversee many of the plan's topics. Public comments will be collected until the end of April. Kaye Simonson, Director of Planning for the County, is confirmed to attend the March 27th OSC meeting and will provide plan updates and information to the group and facilitate OSC input and recommendations. In preparation for the March meeting, OSC members will forward their master plan discussion ideas and questions to staff for consolidation and review at the February OSC meeting, before meeting with Ms. Simonson. Because the OSC has a Work Plan and action items with initiatives around many of the master plan concerns, it is in our purview to preserve these important qualities of living in SMC as stated by the public.

Work Session, 2023 Work Plan: The OSC conducted further review and refinement of the OSC 2023 Work Plan. A motion to adopt the final 2023 OSC Work Plan was made by Jason Merritt, seconded by Roger Wickham, and approved by unanimous consent. The 2023 Work Plan document will be scheduled for presentation and approval at an upcoming BOCC meeting.

Other Business:

O.A. Greager: Ms. Kudo asked for an update from Staff on the development of a permanent Use Management Plan for the O.A. Greager parcel near Miramonte Reservoir. To prepare for potential educational uses this year, a temporary use plan may be put into place while the permanent use plan is

being developed and adopted. A draft of this temporary plan will be reviewed and discussed at the next OSC meeting.

Perimeter Trail: Ms. Kask and Rich Hamilton are meeting with Idarado and the Telluride Mountain Club to discuss the current planned use of USFS land for a small section of the Perimeter Trail, and to consider if it's possible to use more of Idarado land to bypass public land and avoid the federal approval process and its stringent trail design standards.

Next meeting: Monday, February 27, 2023 @ 4:00 pm

Meeting adjourned: @ 5:41 p.m. by Chairperson St. Onge